



MICHIGAN
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
P.O. Box 30014
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

10:30 a.m. Room 327 House Office Building, Lansing

Representative Alexander, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Barrett, Alexander, Lauwers, Howell, Albert, Calley, Frederick, Elder, Kivela, Phelps, Sabo, Sneller.

Representative Lauwers made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on March 1, 2017. No objections being offered, the minutes were accepted as presented.

The Vice-Chair laid the following bill before the Committee.

HB 4167 (Frederick) Vehicles; trucks; length limit, increase truck and trailer combinations transporting agricultural drainage tubing to 75 feet.

Representative Frederick addressed the Committee regarding the contents of HB 4167.

Rick Lamb and Justin Horvath, representing ADS and the Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership, spoke in support of HB 4167.

Phil Browne, representing the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), submitted a card indicating a neutral position on the bill.

Russell Talaski, representing the Michigan Land Improvement Association, submitted a card indicating support for HB 4167.

Representative Barrett assumed the Chair, the time being 10:46 a.m.

The Chair laid the following bill before the Committee.

HB 4070 (Kesto) Property; condemnation; requirement that state agencies evaluate government actions that may result in takings; expand to include department of agriculture and rural development, and require agency that fails to review takings assessment to pay court costs and attorney fees.

Representative Kesto reviewed the provisions of the bill with the Committee.

Jarrett Skoryp, representing the Mackinac Center, spoke in support of HB 4070.

Matt Blakely, representing the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), discussed various aspects of the bill with committee members.

The Committee proceeded to presentations.

Jim Zook, representing the Michigan Corn Growers Association and the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan, discussed the following topics in a presentation: the roles of the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan and the Michigan Corn Growers Association; types of corn; components of yellow dent corn; Michigan corn production; corn production by county; Michigan corn usage; corn productivity last century; global growth; U.S. Farm Income; sources of gross cash income; corn markets; market drivers; Michigan ethanol plants; and ethanol and consumers.

Ken Nobis, representing the Michigan Milk Producers Association (MMPA), reviewed the following items with the Committee: 100 years of MMPA; MMPA locations; MMPA product customers; MMPA butter customers; Michigan's dairy industry; top ten dairy states; number of dairy cows and total annual production in Michigan 2000-2006; milk production per cow; top ten states – 2016; the Michigan advantage; dairy's economic impact to Michigan's economy; U.S. milk production; state milk production; Michigan's dairy industry; changes in milk process in Michigan, December 2012-January 2017; export market's importance; U.S. Exports and Imports as percentage of Milk Production; Mexico: a \$1.3 billion market for U.S. dairy products; milk production summary for major exporters; It's a changing dairy trade environment; production correction is building; MMPA expansion efforts since 2008; Michigan's dairy industry; cheese plant; increased demand for milkfat; growth of the middle class; and growing Michigan's dairy industry.

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair Barrett declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 11:52 a.m.

Representative Tom Barrett, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk (517) 373-8538